

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-22, 24-27, 29-30, and 32-42 were presented for examination in the present application. The instant amendment cancels claims 22 and 40 without prejudice. Thus, claims 1-4, 6, 8-21, 24-27, 29-30, 32-39, and 41-42 are presented for consideration upon entry of the instant amendment, which is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 24, and 42 are independent.

Claims 13-22, 36, and 39-41 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to include elements of allowed claim 22, which has been cancelled. Thus, claims 1-4, 6, and 8-21 are in condition for issuance.

Claim 24 has been amended to include elements of allowed claim 40, which has been cancelled. In addition, claim 33 has been amended to correct an obvious error. Thus, claims 24-27, 29-30, 32-39, and 41 are in condition for issuance.

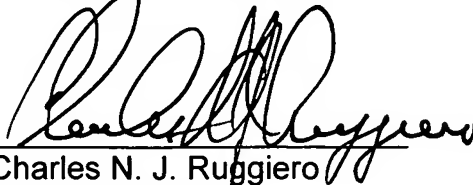
Claim 42 has been allowed.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for issuance. Such action is solicited.

In the alternative, it is respectfully submit that the instant amendment places the present application in better condition for appeal. Thus, entry and consideration of the instant amendment, at least for the purposes of appeal, are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles N. J. Ruggiero

Reg. No. 28,468

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P.

One Landmark Square, 10th floor

Stamford, CT 06901-2682

Tel: (203) 327-4500

Fax: (203) 327-6401

August 19, 2008